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May 11, 1999

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Docket Management Branch (HFA-305)
FDA
5630 Fishers Lane
Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Docket #98N-1038 (irradiation in the production, processing, & handling of food)

To whom it may concern:

I am a homemaker and parent who is concerned about the above docket issue. I strongly support the prominent labeling of irradiated food products using the term irradiated and the radura symbol. I feel that the two proposed alternative terminologies are extremely misleading and should **NOT** be used. Irradiation is not the same as pasteurization. Irradiation causes changes in food texture and taste as well as destroying vitamins. As a consumer I am entitled to know what I am buying and preparing for my family in clear and understandable language, or the vendor has mislead me.

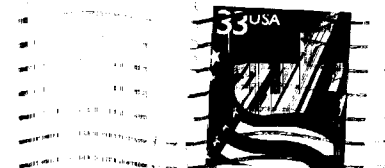
The other area of comment is the possibility of mandated labeling expiring at some future time. I feel that I am entitled the right to know what I am eating and feeding my family **indefinitely**. Pasteurized food is required to do so, why wouldn't irradiated items have to comply with the same rule. I therefore would like the labeling continued as long as the irradiation process is used. I feel that all components using irradiated food should be labeled as well.

Sincerely,
Renee Mills
Renee Mills

98N-1038

C2104

Wm. & Renee Mills
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